

**As Passed by the House**

**133rd General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2019-2020**

**Sub. H. B. No. 285**

**Representatives Greenspan, Brent**

**Cosponsors: Representatives Green, Sheehy, Howse, Abrams, Blair, Brown, Carfagna, Carruthers, Crawley, Crossman, Denson, Edwards, Galonski, Ginter, Hambley, Hicks-Hudson, Hillyer, Ingram, Jones, Kelly, Lanese, Lepore-Hagan, Lightbody, Liston, Manning, G., Miller, A., Miller, J., O'Brien, Patton, Perales, Robinson, Seitz, Smith, K., Sobecki, Swearingen, Sweeney, Upchurch, Weinstein, West**

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**A BILL**

To enact section 4510.101 of the Revised Code to 1  
establish a permanent Driver's License 2  
Reinstatement Fee Debt Reduction and Amnesty 3  
Program. 4

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4510.101 of the Revised Code be 5  
enacted to read as follows: 6

**Sec. 4510.101.** (A) As used in this section: 7

(1) "Eligible offense" means an offense under any of the 8  
following Revised Code sections if the offense, an essential 9  
element of the offense, the basis of the charge, or any 10  
underlying offense did not involve alcohol, a drug of abuse, 11  
combination thereof, or a deadly weapon: 2151.354, 2152.19, 12  
2152.21, 2907.24, 2913.02, 4507.20, 4509.101, 4509.17, 4509.24, 13  
4509.40, 4510.037, 4510.05, 4510.06, 4510.15, 4510.22, 4510.23, 14

<u>4510.31, 4510.32, 4511.203, 4511.205, 4511.251, 4511.75,</u>	15
<u>4549.02, 4549.021, and 5743.99.</u>	16
<u>(2) "Deadly weapon" has the same meaning as in section</u>	17
<u>2923.11 of the Revised Code.</u>	18
<u>(3) "Drug of abuse" has the same meaning as in section</u>	19
<u>4511.181 of the Revised Code.</u>	20
<u>(4) "Complete amnesty" means a waiver of reinstatement</u>	21
<u>fees.</u>	22
<u>(5) "Driver's license or permit" does not include a</u>	23
<u>commercial driver's license or permit.</u>	24
<u>(6) "Indigent" means a person who is a participant in any</u>	25
<u>of the following programs:</u>	26
<u>(a) The supplemental nutrition assistance program</u>	27
<u>administered by the department of job and family services</u>	28
<u>pursuant to section 5101.54 of the Revised Code;</u>	29
<u>(b) The medicaid program pursuant to Chapter 5163. of the</u>	30
<u>Revised Code;</u>	31
<u>(c) The Ohio works first program administered by the</u>	32
<u>department of job and family services pursuant to section</u>	33
<u>5107.10 of the Revised Code;</u>	34
<u>(d) The supplemental security income program pursuant to</u>	35
<u>20 C.F.R. 416.1100;</u>	36
<u>(e) The United States department of veterans affairs</u>	37
<u>pension benefit program pursuant to 38 U.S.C. 1521.</u>	38
<u>(B) Not later than ninety days after the effective date of</u>	39
<u>this section, the director of public safety shall establish a</u>	40
<u>permanent driver's license reinstatement fee debt reduction and</u>	41

amnesty program. 42

(C) Under the program, both of the following apply: 43

(1) A person whose driver's license or permit has been 44  
suspended as a result of an eligible offense is eligible for 45  
driver's license reinstatement fee debt reduction if the person 46  
has completed all court-ordered sanctions related to the 47  
eligible offense other than the payment of reinstatement fees 48  
and at least eighteen months have expired since the end of the 49  
period of suspension ordered by the court. 50

(2) A person whose driver's license or permit has been 51  
suspended as a result of an eligible offense is eligible for 52  
complete amnesty if the person has completed all court-ordered 53  
sanctions related to the eligible offense other than the payment 54  
of reinstatement fees, and the person is indigent and can 55  
demonstrate proof of indigence by providing documentation in a 56  
form approved by the director. 57

(D) (1) The director shall grant reinstatement fee debt 58  
reduction to a person who is eligible under division (C) (1) of 59  
this section as follows: 60

(a) If the person owes reinstatement fees for multiple 61  
eligible offenses, the person shall pay either the lowest 62  
reinstatement fee owed for those offenses or ten per cent of the 63  
total amount owed for those offenses, whichever amount is 64  
greater. 65

(b) If the person owes reinstatement fees for one eligible 66  
offense, the person shall pay one-half of the reinstatement fee 67  
owed for that offense. 68

(2) The director shall grant complete amnesty to a person 69  
eligible under division (C) (2) of this section. 70

(3) A person who has received either a reduction or 71  
complete amnesty of reinstatement fees under the program 72  
established by this section is not eligible for a subsequent 73  
reduction or complete amnesty of reinstatement fees through the 74  
program. 75

(E) (1) If a person is eligible for reinstatement fee debt 76  
reduction, the director shall place the person on a payment plan 77  
for the repayment of the reduced reinstatement fees. Any person 78  
who is granted a reinstatement fee debt reduction shall pay not 79  
less than twenty-five dollars per month in all succeeding months 80  
until all the reduced reinstatement fees required under the 81  
program are paid in full. 82

(2) Payments may be made by regular mail, online, or in 83  
person at the bureau of motor vehicles or any deputy registrar 84  
office. If a person makes a payment in person, the person also 85  
shall pay the deputy registrar service fee or the bureau of 86  
motor vehicles service fee equal to the amount established under 87  
section 4503.038 of the Revised Code. 88

(F) (1) The director shall send an automatic notice either 89  
by regular mail or by electronic mail, if an electronic mail 90  
address is available, to a person regarding the program when all 91  
of the following apply: 92

(a) The person's driver's license has been suspended for 93  
an eligible offense. 94

(b) At least eighteen months have expired since the end of 95  
the period of suspension ordered by the court. 96

(c) The person owes reinstatement fees. 97

(2) The notice required under division (F) (1) of this 98  
section shall contain all of the following: 99

(a) A statement that the person has been accepted into the program and will be considered a full participant in the program after the completion of the first installment payment or the submission and acceptance of proof of indigency. 100  
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(b) A statement listing what outstanding reinstatement fees are being reduced with their corresponding eligible offenses, under the program. 104  
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(c) A statement regarding the total amount of reinstatement fees the person owes under the program, the amount of each installment payment, and the total number of installment payments. 107  
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(d) A statement explaining that the person may be eligible for a full waiver of the reinstatement fees if the person can demonstrate proof of indigence. 111  
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(e) Any other information necessary to explain the program and its requirements, including a list of the documents required to prove indigence. 114  
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(3) Prior to sending the notification under division (F) (1) of this section, the director may search the bureau of motor vehicle records or the office of vital statistics records to verify the person's last known address, whether the person is still a resident of this state, and whether the person is still living or deceased. 117  
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(G) Any person who believes that the person is eligible for the program but who has not received a notice from the director may submit an application for the program by regular mail, online, or in person at the bureau of motor vehicles or any deputy registrar office. The director shall determine the eligibility of the applicant. If a person applies in person, the 123  
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person shall pay the deputy registrar service fee or the bureau 129  
of motor vehicles service fee equal to the amount established 130  
under section 4503.038 of the Revised Code. 131

(H) (1) The director shall conduct public service 132  
announcements regarding the permanent driver's license 133  
reinstatement fee debt reduction and amnesty program that 134  
includes a description of the program and its requirements. In 135  
addition, the director shall make such information available on 136  
the department of public safety's and the bureau of motor 137  
vehicle's web sites. 138

(2) The director shall establish a toll-free telephone 139  
number by which a person may receive information about the 140  
program and the person's eligibility for the program. The toll- 141  
free telephone number shall be listed as part of the public 142  
service announcements and on the department and bureau web 143  
sites. 144

(I) The director shall adopt rules in accordance with 145  
Chapter 119. of the Revised Code in order to establish any 146  
requirements and procedures necessary to administer and 147  
implement this section. 148